المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

PRESS RELEASE
7 December 1992

In a press release issued today, the London-based Islamic Council expressed its extreme outrage at the wanton destruction yesterday of the centuries-old Babri mosque in India by Hindu militants.

According to an eye-witness press report (The Times, 7 December), a mob of 200,000 Hindus surrounded the mosque which was torn down by frenzied Hindu mobs with their bare hands. The Times also reported that 'the Central Reserve Police Force which had supposedly been sent to save the building was nowhere to be seen' and 'the local police faded away, leaving no doubt where their sympathies lay'.

All these facts leave no doubt about the acquiescence of the Indian government apparatus, including the prime minister, in this most revolting act of vandalism.

The total destruction of the mosque, to build a Hindu temple in its place, has sent shock waves reverberating throughout the Muslim world and has exploded once and for all the myth and pretence of India's claim to secularism. The Council warned that if the Babri mosque is not rebuilt immediately to its original specifications the failure will pave the way for the destruction of thousands more mosques, plunging the country into a turmoil of unprecedented proportions.

The Council appealed to all sane elements in the world, especially the governments of Muslim states, to convince the Indian government that it is in its own interests to protect the life, honour and property of the 100 million Muslim minority and the sanctity of their places of worship and their holy shrines.